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18 August 1959

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Dear Don:

Subject: Admiral-General Articles

Reference: [REDACTED]

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It has become quite obvious that the procedure for handling articles by generals and admirals must be revised to bring the work load within the capacity of your staff and, at the same time, to get analysts here the materials that they need in order to follow developments in the critical areas of army-party relations, military theory and doctrine, weapon systems and other related subjects.

I realize that no field bureau, as your VI570 pointed out, can keep "sufficiently aware of RPB thinking and requirements at all times to volunteer continually valid criteria to govern the selective processing of such material." The point is that such problems can be solved only by cooperation between headquarters and field bureaus. As a first step, I would appreciate suggestions based on your knowledge of the nature and volume of the material to be dealt with, how much of it is worthwhile, how the worthwhile portions can be described in the form of standing requirements and so forth. Editors and analysts here will then review your suggestions and write out final requirements.

Perhaps we can limit the requirement by specifying certain subjects to be automatically texted such as items on military doctrine or theory, weapons systems, surprise attack and so forth. Maybe it would be useful, although I much prefer to avoid such an approach, for you to text the important articles automatically and to send in a sort of commentary list of admiral-general items and we could order what we need.

Let's both apply our knowledge and our imagination and see if we can't get a solution to this long-standing and troublesome problem.

Sincerely,

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Chief, [REDACTED]

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